



INSIDE

SPRINGTIME FAIR FORCES CANCELLATION OF ANTIC: P2



The Brooklyn Paper

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BABY STALK

Heights menace sent to psych ward

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn Heights parents breathed a cautious sigh of relief this week with the arrest of a woman who had allegedly been stalking toddlers at area playgrounds for nearly a year.

And while Tammy McDonald's second trip through the system in the past two weeks has followed much the same course as her first—from police custody to a psychiatric hospital—there is a key difference in the allegations against her: her under much stricter confinement.

McDonald is being held without

trial and is undergoing a psychiatric evaluation to see if she is fit to stand trial, as a grand jury considers laying down an indictment against her on a battery of charges including multiple counts of stalking, harassment, endangering the welfare of a child and attempted kidnapping.

Police are receiving additional allegations against McDonald, who is believed to have been behind a bizarre string of harassment and attempted kidnapping incidents around Brooklyn Heights and Cobble Hill.

According to a detective in-

vestigation, there have been at least eight reports brought to the attention of 84th Precinct police, which are being investigated, in addition to four parents or caretakers who have agreed to testify against the suspect.

McDonald was arrested on July 10 after she was allegedly attempting to wrestle a stroller away from a Heights mother at Clinton and Montague streets.

The woman screamed and McDonald fled, according to police, however they caught up to her a few hours later during a canvass of the area.

See STALKER on page 5

Law tower OK

Council approves school's high-rise dorm

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

The City Council on Wednesday unanimously approved a controversial Brooklyn Law School dormitory plan that will

put a new high rise in downtown Brooklyn despite staunch opposition from the community.

In a seemingly trivial 11th-hour compromise, Brooklyn Law agreed to shave off the top two floors of

the 265-foot building, reducing the entire height to about 216 feet, not including the water tower and mechanical equipment.

For surrounding community groups, however, the compromise was a victory, as the original plan reached through mutual consent.

Instead, it amounted to a somewhat negligible concession, according to the acting Park Slope Councilman Bill Dellios.

Downtown-Brooklyn Heights Councilman David Yassky and members of the council's Zoning & Franchises Land Use subcommittee, who besieged the Law School on Monday to truncate its proposal.

Yassky, a professor at Brooklyn College, currently on leave but planning to return, said he had to excuse himself from voting, citing a potential conflict of interest.

That move severely limited the community's influence in the council, where a legislator's vote and lobbying power can carry a lot of sway in committee and in the full council.

While the traffic impact lingers on the horizon, the most immediate concern for the site is its environmental impact, which, while the subject of Thursday's meeting, hosted by the Gowanus Canal Task Force Committee on the Develop-

ment of at least two threatened lawsuits,

There were some tense moments but given the history that hovers over the former U.S. Postal Service site in Gowanus, the first meeting between the community, the developer and Lowe's Home Improvement, the expected occupant, could be considered somewhat civil.

After all, the development of the controversial, 12-acre site—located between Second Avenue and the Gowanus Canal, from 10th to 12th streets—has been the subject of at least two threatened lawsuits, one of which came from the neighborhood's congressional representative, Nydia Velazquez.

Velazquez said in a prepared statement following the July 18 meeting, "listening to the community is the best way for [developer Forest City Ratner] to proceed with the project development," and added traffic and access to the canal as salient concerns.

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See TOXIC on page 9

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Yassky, however, did address Brooklyn Law Dean Joan Weixel during the meeting, which was the subject of Thursday's meeting, hosted by the Gowanus Canal Task Force Committee on the Develop-

ment of at least two threatened lawsuits,

See TOWER on page 9

Toxic fears

Concerns over Lowe's site cleanup

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

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See TOXIC on page 9

Beer nuts

North 11th Street in Williamsburg was jumping Saturday at a food & drink fest at Brooklyn Brewery.

The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mingo

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklynites would rather pay tolls on the East River bridges as a means for raising city revenues than pay higher taxes or higher bus and subway fares, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released this week.

But if that poll showed a preference for the bridge tolls, in Downtown Brooklyn and Brooklyn Heights, which are at the foot of the Manhattan and Brooklyn bridges and stand to gain or lose most from the toll proposal, the debate still rages.

Citing backed up traffic and consequent air pollution, Roy Vanasco, chairman of Community Board 2's Traffic and Transportation committee, "Never in the world would I think people would seriously consider putting tolls on the East River bridges."

"I didn't work on the Verrazano," he added, citing a backlog of cars approaching the Staten Island-bound

Verrazano Narrows Bridge in Bay Ridge.

Citing Vassano's argument,

McGroarty, chairmanwoman of the Brooklyn Heights Association's traffic committee, said it is the Verrazano's poor design that causes backups because the toll plaza fans out and then drivers must all merge again into a few lanes, which causes backups.

McGroarty asserted that tolls to reduce the number of people that choose to drive, thereby decreasing traffic. Additionally, she said, EZ-Pass technology would reduce the source of tolls for the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges practically impossible.

McGroarty said the only solution to the increasingly diminishing capacity of the East River bridges is to raise tolls and "congestion pricing."

"When people would seriously consider putting tolls on the East River bridges, three of which are the Brooklyn, Manhattan and Williamsburg bridges, which connect Brooklyn to Manhattan, would become an engine of revenue-generation."

The suggested cause a brief but vocal political fender with clannish protest from Brooklyn's elected officials, including Borough President Marty Markowitz, council members Michael Nelson of Midwood, Lew Fidler of Marine Park, Diana Reyna of Bushwick, Assembly members Felix Ortiz of Sunnyside Park and Eric Adams of Greenpoint, and state Sen. Carl Kruger of Sheepshead Bay and Midwood.

Following the outcry, the idea had, more or less, slipped into ob-

scenity as the mayor's executive budget was drawn, and little more was heard on the matter, until the poll was released on Tuesday.

The Quinnipiac University Polling Institute explored the idea in the context of closing the city's ever-growing budget deficit, asking: "To balance the city budget, if you had to choose one of the following—increasing taxes, increasing subway and bus fares or placing tolls on the free East River bridges?"

The poll found that 51 percent of Brooklynites chose bridge tolls, 23 percent chose an increase in taxes and 20 percent supported an increase in subway or bus fares. Eighteen percent were undecided.

The poll surveyed 932 registered voters citywide between July 8 and July 15, using a random dialing system. The Brooklyn poll numbers were almost identical to the citywide results, which found that 51 percent

New Yorkers favored bridge tolls, 23 percent increased taxes and 20 percent hiking mass transit fares.

The numbers are accurate, said See TOLLS on page 3

Poll: Brooklyn prefers bridge tolls

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

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It's official! Promenade reopens

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

What a difference a year makes.

Last August, Brooklyn Heights Commissioner Ken Fisher stood with Parks Commissioner Henry Stern against a drastically different skyline to celebrate the completion of the first half of the promenade's \$2.7 million renovation.

Fisher has since been term-limited out of office, replaced by Councilman David Yassky. Stern was replaced by the new mayor and replaced with Adrienne Benepe, and the view from Brooklyn Heights, Esplanade, standing on the new promenade, is now missing the Manhattan skyline's anchor, the Twin Towers. Among those changes, the less dramatic restoration of the prom-

nade continued, with replacement of the asphalt hexagonal blocks and the blue stone trim along the walkway. Benches have been substituted with those featuring the design of 1939 World's Fair mosaics, new plantings, and a new drainage system has been upgraded.

Additional replacements and improvements to the gardens along the promenade are expected to take place by mid-October, with a planting of snow-in-summer, ajugas and about 10,000 tulip and daffodil bulbs, which are expected to bloom in spring.

"When people come here, to visit the promenade, they will be blown away," said Borough President Marty Markowitz, who was not in office when last a ribbon was cut on the promenade. "The promenade is where we introduce people to Brooklyn."

See OFFICIAL on page 9



Cutting ribbon on promenade Wednesday are (l to r) Marian Wood, for Councilman David Yassky, 84th Pct. Insp. Christopher Rising, CB2 District Manager Olaniye Alabi, City Parks Commissioner Adrienne Benepe, Borough President Marty Markowitz and Brooklyn Parks Commissioner Julius Speigel. BP / Tom Callan

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Clark Gesner, 64, Hts composer

By Paulianne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

Composer, lyricist, librettist, actor and longtime Brooklyn Heights resident Clark Gesner died suddenly on Tuesday, July 23.

Gesner, 64, was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Clare's Hospital in Manhattan at 7:30 pm. At press time, the hospital declined to release the cause of death.

Teresa Johnson, administrative assistant at the First Unitarian Church, where Gesner was a member, said Gesner had previously been hospitalized for cardiac problems and was scheduled for bypass surgery, which he had postponed in order to

take care of personal business.

Gesner was best known for his musical, "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," which opened in 1967 at the off-Broadway Pearl Theater, and for his Broadway performances. In 1999, the play was staged as a revival, this time at Broadway's Ambassador Theatre. It ran for six months and won two Tony awards.

Gesner is also the author of the musicals "The Glass Menagerie," "Mormont Hotel" and "Animal Fair," which had its New York premiere at the Galaxy Players in Park Slope last season. Seven years ago, the New Theatre Company produced "The Jell-O Is Always Red," a revue of Gesner's cabaret and theater songs.

His television credits include writing for "Captain Kangaroo," "Sesame Street" and "That Was The Week That Was." As an actor he performed regionally in musicals such as "1776," "Lend Me a Tenor" and "South Pacific."

Born in Monroe and educated at Princeton University, Gesner moved to New York City in 1960 to pursue a career as a theatrical writer. His first job was as a cue card boy for the children's television show "The Big Comfy Couch."

After a stint in the Army, he moved to Brooklyn Heights because he'd heard it was quieter than Manhattan.

The son and grandson of Unitarian ministers, Gesner was a deacon of the First Unitarian Church on Monroe Place at

Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights.

Alfred Blanco, a fellow deacon, said of Gesner, "He was a delightful, sweet human being. He added light to a conversation. He had a gentle sense of humor. He was intelligent, talented and sensitive."

For more than a decade, Gesner was the theater reviewer for a local publication. At both the Heights Players and Park Slope's Galaxy Players, Gesner remained as a good friend. Both companies have staged "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown." And the Heights Players also produced Gesner's scripted version of O'Henry's short story, "The Ransom of Redchick."

Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights.

The Heights Players' John Bourne recalled "The Philadelphia Story" as the first Heights Players production Gesner reviewed.

"He always loved the show," he said. "I remember Clark commented that everybody expected that the gal who played the part made it her own."

He also remembered that Gesner had his special seat at the theater. "He always saved it for him," said Bourne. "He was in that seat for at least 12 years."

Garrison Players' president Mitch Ruth Chododley commented: "He's been a good friend for the theater, but I don't think he let get in his way. He spoke of his mind. We certainly did not always agree. But he was always fair."



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Vito beats Hil over Ed \$\$

By Heather J. Wilson
for The Brooklyn Papers

Rep. Vito J. Fossella defeated Assemblyman Shirley Friday in his effort to preserve the current distribution of Title I funding for Brooklyn schools after an amendment put forth by Sen. Hillary Clinton failed to achieve a compromise in a House-Senate conference committee.

That amendment would have reworked the federal funding formula, which currently requires that education funds for poor children be doled out on a county by county basis, rather than by school district.

Fossella said that once he got wind of the plan, he mobilized support against Clinton's amendment.

Brooklyn has 293 Title I schools, out of 384, and 189,000 Title I-eligible students. A school is considered a Title I institution if its student makeup is comprised of 68 percent or more students whose family income is below the poverty level.

According to Fossella spokesman Craig Donner, each borough's Title I school is roughly based on the total number of Title I-eligible students in that borough — taking into considera-

tion those students who are Title I-eligible but whose schools are not regarded as Title I institutions because its student population does not meet the 68 percent threshold.

Title I funds, therefore, never reach a Title I student who does not attend a Title I school, although their head-count eligibility still translates into federal funding.

"Let's say there are 1,000 Title I-eligible students but only 500 go to Title I schools. Brooklyn will get money for all 1,000 but only those 500 of them benefit," Donner said.

Clinton has 293 Title I schools. Brooklyn's poverty is less concentrated than in the other four boroughs. Donner said the formula safeguards the borough's local schools.

But Clinton believes the formula is far from being accurate with heavy poverty concentrations divide the Title I money among most students per school, according to Clinton spokeswoman Nina Blackwell, under the current funding method, the Bronx — where

the concentration of poverty are the greatest in the city — receives \$552 per student.

Queens receives \$771 per student and comes in second to the Bronx in the amount of poverty concentration, with Brooklyn in third, receiving \$712 per student.

Brooklyn's home borough, which receives the largest portion of its funding, receives \$811 per student and Staten Island, Fossella's home borough, which receives the smallest portion of its funding, receives \$1,718 per student.

The current formula was

passed by Congress in June as part of the Supplemental Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2002 to fund the war on terrorism and to help rebuild New York — looked to guarantee enough money to the same amount in Title I funds as was appropriated in FY 2001, but mandated that funding over and above that be distributed according to the formula used prior to 1995.

"She aimed to correct this inequity by making sure that Title I funding currently results in dramatic increases in funding per student throughout the city. [Clinton's] change would ensure Title I increases for

Clinton's amendment, which was passed by Rep. Susan Molinari, Fossella's predecessor, in the House.

Clinton's amendment was examined and ultimately rejected, reverting the formula during the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

"The aimed to correct this inequity by making sure that Title I funding currently results in dramatic increases in funding per student throughout the city. [Clinton's] change would ensure Title I increases for

Stabs ex in 3rd Ave. apt.

By Patrick Gallahue
for The Brooklyn Papers

A woman was arrested after allegedly stabbing an ex-boyfriend in the chest with a letter-opener on July 20.

The two got into an argument at an apartment on Third Avenue, between St. Mark's Place and Warren Street, around 9 am. The man turned violent and the woman stabbed her ex-bean, 63, according to police.

The woman was arrested along with another woman, whose offense could not be determined at press time.

Crime pays

A parking ticket scofflaw ended up getting a cash docket — namely grand larceny — to pay off another \$700.

On July 10, at around 3 pm, a woman was arrested by a bank representative that her credit card had been used to pay off \$1,619 in parking tickets.

The thief of the \$1,619 was not sure where she might have encountered the delinquent driver but is certain that her Visa card was used without her consent.

Shop robbed

A school on Lincoln Place between Seventh and Eighth avenues, was burglarized of four digital cameras valued at \$4,000.

The room was locked up by two teachers at around 4:30 pm on July 16, but when they returned on the morning of July 19 at around 9:45 am, the door was unlocked and the cameras were gone.

Cash & booze

A burglar unlawfully treated himself to cocktails at a restaurant on Seventh Avenue, between Third and Fourth streets.

The restaurant had closed at around 1 am on Saturday, but when a 20-year-old man arrives came to open the business at around 10 am the following morning, he found the padlocks had been removed from the front gate had been opened.

The burglar made off with \$700 in cash, \$30 in quarters and assorted liquors, valued at \$800.

Call dropped

A 30-year-old woman was violently interrupted while speaking on her cell phone at Berkeley Place off Seventh Avenue.

At around 1 am, on July 19, the victim was making a call when she was pulled into someone in front of her. He pushed her and grabbed her phone and her pocketbook and then fled.

At around 8 pm on July 20, the victim was thrown to the ground by the four attackers and was beaten in the back, arm and chest.

The extent of the man's injuries were not included in the police report.

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Don't ask them

Bloomie taps Brooklyn's brightest for Board of Ed panel, then tells them to keep mouths shut

By Patrick Gallahue,
Heather Wilson and Neil Sloane
The Brooklyn Papers

Mayor Michael Bloomberg this week tapped two Brooklyn education experts for the advisory panel that oversees the Board of Education, and then he promptly told them not to talk to the public.

No sooner had Bloomberg announced the names of Dr. David Chang, the president of Polytechnic University in Downtown Brooklyn, and Marita Regan, a longtime Bay

Ridge resident and 40-year veteran of the city schools system, along with five other prominent Brooklyn residents, than he swiftly clamped a muzzle on them, forbidding them to talk to anyone but his appointed school chancellor and education department.

The yet-to-be-hired schools chancellor will also sit on the panel and there will be five parents of public school children, one appointed by each of the five boroughs.

At the July 18 press conference to announce the selections, and with the new appointees standing behind him, Bloomberg told reporters, "In

terms of the panel members, their job is to give advice to the chancellor, not advice to the press."

"I do not expect to see their names ever in the press answering a question either on the record or off the record," the mayor said, referring to a question about how much authority the panel would have.

"It's not going to happen. It has not happened elsewhere in this administration and I would not tolerate it here."

Both Chang and Regan took the mayor's threat so seriously that they declined The Brooklyn Papers' requests for comment on their new appointments.

The 13-member New York City Panel for Educational Policy will work to replace the Board of Education, which will serve only as an advisory body to the mayor-appointed schools chancellor on educational and computer engineering at the University of Colorado.

Chang also served as the director of the NSF/Institute for Creative Research Center for Microwave and Millimeter Wave Computer-Aided Design.

"Each of these individuals possesses exceptional expertise and experience in the particular field of education and technology," said the school system.

Chang's academic record includes serving for two years as a member of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at the University of Colorado and as a professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Colorado.

Chang also served as the director of the NSF/Institute for Creative Research Center for Microwave and Millimeter Wave Computer-Aided Design.

Chang's civic commitments include his role as a trustee of the Metropolitan Business Improvement District, the NYC 2012 campaign to bring the Olympics to New York, the New York City Partnership, NYC Chamber of Commerce, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities and as director of the Regional

Plan Association. He also served on Bloomberg's transition team.

According to City Hall, Chang's expertise in the field of science and his invaluable resource to a school system with a deficiency in scientific understanding.

Chang declined to say if he had been asked to leave Polytechnic spokesman Stuart Park.

He was promoted from assistant principal of Maria Park's PS 222 to principal, and recently took a leave of absence from the school to focus on the implementation of classroom curriculum.

Regan earned a master's degree in elementary education from Richmond College.

She has been a teacher at the university.

Regan's resume of New York City public school experience spans more than 30 years, was forwarded to the mayor's office in January by Councilman Marty Golden.

"She has been well entrenched in the education system — in the classroom and in administration and Marty is tremendously enthusiastic about bringing our community closer as a neighborhood for the education process," said a Golden spokesman.

"It's a good day

for Bay Ridge in education." Regan's resume includes time spent as a classroom teacher at PS 9 in Prospect Heights, and as a reading coordinator and reading teacher at PS 169 in Sunset Park. She

was promoted from assistant principal of Maria Park's PS

222 to principal, and recently

took a leave of absence from

the school to focus on the imple-

mentation of classroom curricu-

lum.

Bloomberg has yet to an-

swer his pick for chancellor,

but he has a short list.

Barbara Byrd-Bennett, the

former superintendent of low

performing schools under for-

mer schools chancellor Rudy

Reich, is also on the list.

Regan's appointment was ex-

pected to be announced in the

near future.

Chang and Regan will serve

with Philip Berry, the vice

president of Colgate-Palmolive,

the director of the City Univer-

sity of New York's Dominican

Institute; Dr. Souza

Kappner, the president of the

Bank Street College of Educa-

tion; Dr. Michael Sparer, the

director emeritus of El

Museo del Barrio and part of

the advisory Committee of the

Center for Curatorial Studies

in Bard College; and Richard

Menchel, the former director

of Goldman Sachs and long-

time activist in a area of public

health.

members of the education poli-
cy committee to voice their
concerns and their advice di-
rectly to the chancellor to
avoid the back biting and
heavily guarded language that
characterized the last board, a lot
of the problems, centered around members of the board
not communicating directly
with each other."

Borough President Marty
Markowitz has not made an
announcement yet regarding his
chosen appointment, though a Borough Hall spokes-
woman said that announcement
was expected "soon."

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quiet neighborhood.

One Heights parent, who
asked not to be named, said it
was "ridiculous" that she was
set free because "it's clear to
anybody that she's mentally
ill."

The woman said she, too,
had a brief encounter with Mc-
Donald on Ocean Avenue Street,
but that she had not run into him
too close to her 6-month-old
son, she circumvented a con-
frontation by simply warning the
woman "Stay away from my
baby."

Levy said he reported the
incident to police, but that he
had not heard back from them on
a formal criminal complaint.

Five days later, on July 16, at around 2 p.m., she had yet
another crossing with McDonald
at the corner of Agostino's
Market at 159 Henry St., about a block from the
first incident.

The interaction was very
similar to the first, with the
woman again calling him a
"stalker" and telling him to back
off. The woman, however, fol-
lowed him. When he was near
her home, she circled him, and
the woman was turing him and he
yelled at her again, deflecting
another confrontation.

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Market at 159 Henry St., about a block from the
first incident.

The interaction was very
similar to the first, with the
woman again calling him a
"stalker" and telling him to back
off. The woman, however, fol-
lowed him. When he was near
her home, she circled him, and
the woman was turing him and he
yelled at her again, deflecting
another confrontation.

Levy said he reported the
incident to police, but that he
had not heard back from them on
a formal criminal complaint.

At Pierrepont Playground,
where McDonald is believed to
have harassed many parents,
where he has menaced many parents,
news of her arrest was met with mixed
reactions from parents that she
denied them their previous alter-
cation.

"They didn't ask for her
to be arrested for nothing,"
Levy complained.

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where McDonald is believed to
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FALL COLLEGE PREVIEW

Enrolling this fall? Here's a round-up of offerings

Brooklyn College

The premier institution of higher learning in Brooklyn has just gotten better.

The newly expanded, technologically enriched \$54 million Brooklyn College Library opens its doors this fall, providing a diverse and comprehensive research and learning in New York.

The project echoes the existing Georgian architecture of the

building, but underneath the stately facade is a facility endowed with the latest fiber-optic network linking students with campuses and Web sites all over the world—40 percent of all seating will have PCs or Internet connections for students' own laptop computers.

The new library joins the

Morton and Angela Topper Library Cafè as a destination for

research and study. The Library Cafè, featuring 300 computers and Internet services to students, was funded with a \$1.6 million capital grant from the City Council and is supported by a gift from alumna Morton Topper '29, former vice-chairman of Dell Computer and now counselor to the chief executive officer of the company.

Continuing this year will be

On-Course Advantages, a program that admits second-semester freshmen and first-semester juniors to courses that are offered with an average of B or better. On-Course Advantage offers these highly motivated and qualified full-time undergraduates such advantages as expedited registration and guaranteed admission to courses so that their studies can proceed rapidly to conclusion. Full-time students balancing their college careers with part-time jobs will be well off, if eligible to be considered for participation in a five-year extended track.

The new fall marks Brooklyn College's 125th anniversary. With an international reputation for excellence, it offers 125 majors and programs in the humanities, education, fine arts, business, the sciences, and engineering, leading to bachelor's and master's degrees and advanced certificates.

Ninety percent of Brooklyn College's faculty members hold the highest degrees in their field, including Fulbright and Guggenheim fellows, National Book Award finalists, Pulitzer-winning scientists and musicians, and Pulitzer Prize-winning authors.

Brooklyn College enrolls 15,000 undergraduate and graduate students who are representative of the diverse population of Brooklyn and New York City. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the college's co-op internship programs that permit career exploration and provide substantial work experience.

"When I started looking to leave at other schools, I realized how much more Brooklyn College had to offer—and at half the cost," says Sarah Jordan, a senior. "My classes have been great and when I've needed help, someone is always there for me. I feel like I can accomplish so much."

Polytechnic University

Polytechnic University is a comprehensive, private university specializing in engineering, computer science, arts and sciences, and management. Founded in 1854 as Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, the college is the second-oldest independent technological university in the United States. Polytechnic

has its centers in Manhattan, Long Island, and Westchester.

The university boasts top-notch research facilities and technology resources for students, including a 13-megabit fiber-optic network.

The success of a recent capital campaign has allowed a \$130 million physical expansion of the college, and a new residence hall is the first at MetroTech. New programs, faculty, and research projects are further strengthening the University's leadership position among schools of engineering and technology.

Polytechnic has become known for its reputation as a leading college for nearly 150 years.

This excellence results from a synergistic and inseparable mix of high-quality educational programs, faculty research, students receive a solid academic foundation, technical training, and the practical skills needed for a successful future. The University promotes and encourages communication, teamwork, interaction with industry leaders, information analysis and working within a broad spectrum of academic disciplines.

Polytechnic's professors are internationally recognized teachers, scholars, and researchers. Ninety percent of whom have Ph.D.s. The undergraduate major areas are Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Construction Management, Electrical Engineering, Environmental Management, Liberal Studies, Mathematics, Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering, Physics, Biomedical Sciences (Pre-Med), and Technical & Professional Communication.

Call for admission information: (800) POLYTECH or visit our website at www.poly.edu. E-mail to: admitme@poly.edu. Office of Admissions, Polytechnic University, 6 Metrotech, Brooklyn 11201.

Mercy College

Mercy College will be opening a new campus in Herald Square in Manhattan this fall. The college is leasing 55,000 square feet in the heart of Herald Square, 56th Street.

Mercy offers evening classes for about 700 students in

undergraduate and graduate programs that include Business Administration, Education, Psychology, Nursing, Human Resource Management, Direct Marketing, Internet Business Systems and English.

The new location, which will include a computer center, and student lounge, will allow the college to offer classes in both the evening and online, via Distance Learning programs.

In addition, the college, which also has campuses in Dobbs Ferry, the Bronx and White Plains, plans to expand its New York City enrollment to 2,000 over the next three years.

Boricua College

Boricua College, with two locations in the Williamsburg area, offers the following Bachelor Degree programs: Liberal Arts and Sciences, Inter-American Studies, Business Administration, Human

Services, and Childhood Education. Master's degrees are offered in Human Services, Education, Latin and Caribbean Studies.

Boricua's admissions offices can be reached at 9 Graham Avenue (near the intersection of Graham and Nostrand Avenues), (718) 963-4112, and 186 North 6th St. (between Driggs Avenue and Roebling Street), (718) 782-2200.

Kaplan Test Prep

For over 60 years, Kaplan Test Prep has provided test takers with the tools and resources needed to help more than 3 million students prepare for standardized tests to gain admission to secondary school, college and graduate school.

Kaplan Test Prep

Kaplan offers a wide range of PSAT, SAT, SAT 2 and ACT prep options. Kaplan methodology is taught in Kaplan centers, in schools nationwide, and by tutors who come to students' homes. For students

who prefer to study on their own, Kaplan offers books and software to help students reach their higher education goals.

Secondary school students preparing for entrance exams to private and specialty high schools are served by Kaplan's courses in the SSAT, ISEE and the New York State High School Exam in NYC.

In addition to these study options, Kaplan centers and website (www.kaptest.com) routinely offer free admissions advice, testing seminars and practice tests to help students to achieve their educational goals.

Students receive admission & exam information, test-taking strategies, and practice materials, all components of Kaplan's most popular programs.

The Brooklyn Kaplan Center is at 1602 Kings Highway, (718) 336-5300.

Thinking of changing colleges?



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On the road with those 'Cloneheads'

JOE DeNATALE had on his official Cyclones uniform — the same kind the players wear — his fitted Cyclones cap and, for good measure, a Brooklyn Cyclones whistle around his neck to blow whenever his fellow fans need encouragement.

But DeNatale, a Cyclones season ticket holder, wasn't with the team. He was at Coney Island's Keyspan Park, he was two hours north, at a Cyclones away game against the Hudson Valley Renegades.

Not that you could tell. After all, at some points in the game, you could hear "Let's Go, Cyclones" chants than the sound of people, root, root, for the home team. Before the game, Cyclones manager Howard Johnson's team got a round of applause than Renegades skipper Dave Howard.

Call them the Cloneheads. Like a baseball version of the Grateful Dead's notoriously mobile fan base, more and more Cyclones fans — frustrated by sellouts at home and motivated to support Brooklyn's first professional baseball team since the 1957 Brooklyn Dodgers — are hitting the road whenever the Cyclones do.

Ed Shakespeare was the first to notice the Clonehead phenomenon while working on his book "When Baseball Returned to Brooklyn: The Inaugural Season of the New York-Penn League Cyclones" (whose release is the most hotly anticipated fall event — with the possible exception of the new Yankees book).

"At first, his interest was purely academic. But Shakespeare's still around with the ballclub (he says he's "working on an epilogue," but we all know, once a Clonehead, always a Clonehead).

"These people are everywhere," said Shakespeare, who had a diverse career before wrote a few plays. "They love these."

So get out your field guides, sportsfans, for a primer on the modern Clonehead.

The thanks to the Interstate highway system, the range of the Clonehead takes him beyond mere road games against the Staten Island Yankees. True, it's become common knowledge — and a source of great Cyclone pride — that there are Brooklyn fans in Yonkers, the Bronx at the Balto, at St. George, where the Cyclones are from —

But the Cloneheads are showing up much further afield just across the Narrows. A healthy throng were at last week's Renegades game — played in Dutchess County Stadium, at least two hours up the road from Brooklyn — and just as many made it out to Augusta, New Jersey — two hours due west — to watch the Cyclones take on the Cardinals.

THERE were even noticeable packs of Cyclones fans at a Vernon Expos game in Burlington earlier this season (although some of them did appear to be forime Expos fans, contented when the home team continued its typically terrible play).

Looking at the list of New York-Penn League teams, sometimes it looks as though the league was founded solely to give New Yorkers nice drives in the country. Fans who like to travel can take the back roads to Williamsport (in scenic western Pennsylvania), Auburn and Oneonta (in the beautiful Finger Lakes region), Binghamton (close to Niagara Falls) and Lowell (a reviving mill town in Massachusetts).

"For me, the best part is sitting down with the map and planning the trip," said Les Chamlin, a Cyclones partial-season ticket holder who has been to several road games.

"Once road, you can really see what the minor leagues are about. In some of our cities, you can see why no one here has heard of it. It's called 'the fans' system.' It's great to see how other people live out there."

For one Grateful Dead-loving Cyclones fan, the madtripping parallels make sense.

"Dead fans traveled with the band because no two shows were ever the same," said David Shenk, Brooklyn-lyricist and author of "Skeleton Key: A Dictionary for Deadheads," an indispensable (if you're into this kind of thing) compendium of Deadform.

"The same thing is about baseball. In sports, there are endless permutations of things that can happen, so to truly appreciate the beauty of a well-turned Ragdale-to-Jimmy-Joey double-play or to really feel the quiet power of John Torey's defense in the outfield, you have to be there every day. Road-tripping is about getting that deeper understanding."

Perhaps it could even explain why the Cyclones road record (0-9) is better than their home record (7-8). Don't the players hate not noticing?

"I've never heard of fans following a short-season Class-A team on the road. It just shows how committed these Brooklyn fans are to this team."

Season ticket holder Cyd Daitzman and her husband, Alec, were on that Vermont trip, and one of both of them have seen the Cyclones in every New York-Penn League stadium.

"You really want to support the players because they're the nicest bunch of guys you'd ever want to meet," Daitzman said before last week's Hudson Valley game.

Sweetness doesn't always carry over with the boosters.

DeNatale is every home fan's nightmare.

Although DeNatale's Brooklyn-accented dervish of energy, DeNatale takes almost as much delight in making the local fans uncomfortable as he does in roasting for his beloved Cyclones.

"Ya gotta gotta dese people off," DeNatale, who's from Sheepshead Bay, said at the Hudson Valley game. "Look at these fans! They need to� come to them when they're at home. They need to� come to them when they're at home."

And then he started screaming "Let's go, Cyclones!" as loud as he could, while a few Renegades fans covered their ears.

When Renegades fans started leaving in the eighth inning, DeNatale pointed and said: "These fans are from the Bronx. I drove two hours to get here and I'm staying to the end!"

Neary, Cyclones fan Richie Cabassa admitted that traveling with the team "may be a sickness," but it was an illness that he just couldn't shake.

"It's not just the game. We do it for the love of the game and the love of the team."

Ever-philosophical Cyclones outfielder John Toner thought there was something more to it (he always does).

"Don't forget the love of Brooklyn that these people have," Toner said. "People who live in Brooklyn don't define themselves as being from New York. They say they're from Brooklyn. They say they're from Brooklyn for the days when the Dodgers were here. Fans felt close to those players because they lived in the same neighborhoods as them. The Cyclones are Brooklyn's team like the Dodgers were."

Gersh Kuntzman is also a columnist for The New York Post and Newsweek.com. His web site is www.gersh.net.

Clones welcomes back Duke

By Gersh Kuntzman
For The Brooklyn Papers

How good are Brooklyn fans? So good, according to the one and only Duke Snider, that they'll make mental mistakes in a beloved player's favor.

"Just now, I ran into a guy who was telling me he was seeing you go 5-for-5. Well, I never went 5-for-5. Obviously, we've all become better in their minds."

In Snider's case, that's not easy. The seven-time all-star, who hit .407 career home runs and seemed to always be in the top

10 in hitting in the National League, received a hero's welcome at Keyspan Park on Wednesday night.

Snider was the star attraction on a night that featured other famed Dodgers Al Giambi (with his 1947 "The Catch" hat), Tommy Holmes (who struck out only nine times the year he won the batting title), and pitchers Johnny and Ralph Brantley.

John Toner was visibly upset.

"For any baseball fan, he

would I say to Eddie Vedder?" How hard can it be? He never went 5-for-5 either.

Museum muses

Blake Whealy was impressed by the game. Bobby Thompson, who used to play for the "Shot Heard 'Round the World," Bobby Malek, was drawn to the original cornerstone of the ballpark.

Conrad Ragdale had a laugh over an old flat-faced baseball bat that players once used for bunting.

These days, Cyclones players, plus Joe Jannetti and Jay Caliguiri, took advantage of a rare morning off to check out

the American Museum of Natural History's popular "Baseball As America" exhibit earlier this week.

The exhibit, organized by the Baseball Hall of Fame, is meant to illustrate how deeply our beloved game is ingrained into our culture and society. For ballplayers at the lowest levels, it's a reminder that can be a little overwhelming.

"You could see that it was powerful from their reactions to some of the memorabilia there," said Cyclones spokesman Dave Campanaro, who accompanied his players.

"They were really impressed

by things like Bobby Thompson's bat and the Ebbets Field cornerstone.

In addition to placing themselves in baseball's long historical context and playing catch with a few kids, the five Cyclones got to sample hot dogs, from several major league parks, another pillar part of the museum's exhibit.

Hot dogs?

If he had known there would be hot dogs, pitcher (and devoted Edmontophile) Kevin Deaton would have certainly tagged along.

Last week's Play Two

Last week's rainout against the Hudson Valley Renegades will be made up as a rare day-night doubleheader on Friday, Aug. 16.

The makeup game will be played at noon and the regularly scheduled contest will be at 7 p.m.

Fans will need separate tickets for both games (real doubleheaders have gone the way of the 10-cent subway token).

What about Dave?

Cyclones manager Howard Johnson, who has two, as yet-unnamed players on his staff, is designing copies of the team's self-published coffee-table book, "Return to Glory," on Saturday, July 27, at Keyspan Park from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The book, also written by Cyclones media relations manager Dave Campanaro, is ostensibly about the birth of the Cyclones last year, but also puts them in the context of more than 100 years of baseball in Brooklyn.

It's that despite good reviews, the book isn't selling too well at the price of \$15.

No wonder the team is calling out the big gun — Holo — for a high-profile boost.

Comings & goings

The Cyclones are being reinvented on the fly this season.

Here are the latest player moves:

Andres Rodriguez and Edgar Rodriguez were both sent up to the Mets Class-A affiliate in Columbia, South Carolina. Tyler Bellante, a Cyclones friend who was on the team, is still nursing a sore arm, was sent down to Kingsport in the rookie league for more playing time.

Catcher Zach Clements and pitcher Robert Paulk were also sent down.

New Cyclones include Wissconsinite Joe Hietpas (down from Columbia) and pitchers Jason Jackson (from Kingsport) and Ken Chennard (a rehab assignment from the Class-A squad in Port St. Lucie).

Two games washed out

By Gersh Kuntzman
For The Brooklyn Papers

Crosscutters 1 Renegades 0

Thu., July 18 at Williamsport

Imagine that, the Cyclones lost a pitchers' duel. It never would have happened LAST year!

Crosscutters' John Nowak went a strong 4-2/3 innings, giving up only two hits and striking out six while Brooklyn's rehabbing pitcher, Neil Tandy, gave up only one hit over his first frame.

But the first-place Cutters got to relieve Chad Bowen for one messy, stinkin' run.

Cyclones 3 Renegades 4

Fri., July 19, at Brooklyn

Rained-out

Renegades 4 Cyclones 3

Sat., July 20, at Hudson Valley

Whichever happened to be in the lead, the Cyclones' 10-year-old kid hit, the Cyclones lost another close one. Usually brilliant starting pitcher Junior Cabrera was forced to leave the game in just three innings, but the team was timely hitting; the Renegades got key, two-out RBI hits in the second and fifth innings.

Meanwhile, the Cyclones started small numbers in all, including two in the sixth and a man on third with one out in the seventh and eighth.

Cyclones 13 Renegades 4

Sun., July 21, at Brooklyn

Finally, an offensive explosion. The Cyclones rapped out

16 hits (a season high) to improve to 16-16. Alhaji Turay was the star, hitting a home run, going 4-for-5 with a home run and two RBI, and five teammates also had multi-hit games.

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Mercury rising in City Tech labs

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Two floors of Downtown Brooklyn's New York City College of Technology were evacuated recently after mercury was discovered in classrooms, a physics lab and offices.

Students who might wish to attend laudable grades to symptoms of mental pell-mell — such as nervousness, trembling and dementia — may have to look for another educational facility as many health officials are claiming the levels were below what are commonly regarded as hazardous.

In late June, the college, 300 feet from the elevated levels of mercury on the seventh and eighth floors of Namm Hall. The floors were closed off after routine tests found mercury in the two floors, which house classrooms, faculty offices and a physics laboratory.

Mercury can be absorbed in porous surfaces, including stone, rock, tile and even concrete.

While the levels, found to be 23 micrograms per cubic meter, were not four times the limit set by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), consider danger to be a starting point when taken as a precautionary measure.

"The fact that CUNY wants to remediate it — that's fine," said Clement Horwitz, a spokesman for the state's attorney's office, the agency that owns the building. "You don't have to wait for something to get to a dangerous level before

you do something about it."

Pregnant women and children are most vulnerable to the highly toxic metal, which is liquid at room temperature. Small exposures to mercury can have potentially fatal effects as well as causing mood and personality changes, respiratory problems,

trembling and nerve damage.

The Dormitory Authority owns the building while CUNY acts as a lessee of the facility, managing and maintaining it.

Horwitz said the most immediate presumption is that since it is a physics lab, mercury may have been used in some

of the experiments.

"You use mercury for experiments, these things happen," she said. "But that doesn't mean you want students walking through there."

Mercury surfaces may have absorbed some of the mercury.

The Dormitory Authority has hired an environmental

consultant, Professional Service Industries Inc. and a contractor, Impact Environmental — with oversight from the city Department of Health — to vacuum up the mercury and any particles that may be embedded in porous exteriors.

Exactly when the labs may be open again is still uncertain.

"They will do a very thorough cleaning and take new readings," Hutton said. "What happens after that depends on what the readings show."

Call to the Tech's public affairs office earlier were referred to the college's vice president, Dixie Norris, who could not be reached press time.

Just call it city 'College of Technology'

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

New York City Technical College has shifted a few words, changed a couple of letters and reintroduced itself to the public as the New York City College of Technology.

Distancing itself from its roots as a community college, the 120-year-old institution of higher education has recently sought to raise its prominence and stature.

"While the term 'technical college' has broader implications in times past, in today's educational marketplace, technical colleges are generally two-year schools offering vocational programs," Fred Beaufait, the college's president, said in a press statement.

The college currently boasts 11,000 degree students, 50 different technology-related programs, including 50 different technology-related baccalaureate, associate and specialized certificate programs. Another 10,000 students are enrolled in its various adult education and workforce development programs.

On July 12, Gov. George Pataki signed legislation, spon-

ored in the state Senate by Sen. Sophil Maltese (R-Queens) and in the Assembly by Roger Green (D-Fort Greene).

It was not until 1983 that it was allowed to grant its first baccalaureate degree, in hotel and restaurant management.

The college currently boasts 11,000 degree students, 50 different technology-related programs, including 50 different technology-related baccalaureate, associate and specialized certificate programs. Another 10,000 students are enrolled in its various adult education and workforce development programs.

Among the college's planned initiatives is to broad-



Artist's rendering of the New York City College of Technology expansion. BP / File

sored in the state Senate by Sen. Sophil Maltese (R-Queens) and in the Assembly by Roger Green (D-Fort Greene).

Maltese, joined by Assemblywoman Joe Lentol, representing Fort Greene, Greenpoint and Williamsburg, and Assemblywoman Joan Mill-

man of Brooklyn Heights, Bay Ridge, Borough Hill, Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill, at Pataki's Midtown Manhattan Office last week to support the bill.

"New York City College of Technology has been an outstanding institution, but it has grown, it has improved, it has

upgraded," Pataki said. "It has created an important academic niche for itself in New York State as the City University of New York's college of technology."

It is nickname, City Tech,

however, will not have to

change to accommodate the institution's shift in title.

C'Gardens P.O.'d with Post Office

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

activists all expressed gratitude for the truck, the assemblywoman said that it has not been as successful as a permanent post office.

"Sometimes they can't park where it was before, so it's in a different location; they are entitled to lunch so they close for an hour in the middle of the day," Millman told the Brooklyn Papers.

A former postal spokesman said bids are being reviewed for a new substation in Carroll Gardens, after a new six-month absence. Meanwhile, Millman recently sent a letter to Postmaster General John Potter to amplify the community's call for a permanent facility.

Demonstrable of the problem, if the letter had weighed 100 pounds, Millman said he would have had to stamp, Millman would have had to trek to Red Hook across the perilous Hanover Avenue, the roll the truck on an inconsistent mobile post office.

The U.S. Post Office substation located at the Court Street Pharmacy was forced to close down due to no space, but the permanent limitations are inherent in running a post office substation," Millman wrote in her letter, dated June 26, 2002. "Today we read and witnessed of Carroll Gardens forced to rely on a mobile post office truck that has limited hours and services."

The truck, which is not always present, has been a source of frustration for the residents of Carroll Gardens, who are forced to travel to the Brooklyn Heights or Red Hook post offices. Neither of these alternatives are accessible.

The Red Hook facility is located at 615 Clinton St., between Centre and Bush streets near the Red Hook Houses apartment complex. The Brooklyn Heights facility is located between Grand Army Plaza Office at 271 Cadman Plaza East at Johnson Tech Plaza, near Brooklyn Supreme Court.

Millman said the post office is still waiting on a reply from the postmaster general and that the mobilization of a larger group of elected officials on the issue, including federal, city and state leaders, is all pending the response.

In past, Rep. Ed Towns had worked on the matter, although the effort had only earned the area a postsubstation. By redirecting Carroll Gardens' new congressional representatives will Rep. Nydia Velazquez and Rep. Major Owens, should they both gain re-election this November.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

Brooklyn Papers

A photograph of a modern kitchen showroom. The kitchen features light-colored wooden cabinets, a large central island with a white countertop, and a black and white checkered floor. In the background, there are more kitchen units and a window. The overall lighting is bright and even.

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INNOVATIVE MEDICINE



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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

INSIDE

DINING

PAGE GO 3

Isobel charms Brooklyn Heights

CINEMA

PAGE GO 4

Director Ken Loach's dysfunctional films

BROOKLYN EVENTS CALENDAR: GO 2

DANCE

New work

Be the first to see three new dance works, commissioned by Celebrate Brooklyn, which have been choreographed and will be performed by David Neumann and Nicholas Leichter-Dane on Aug. 2.

According to Celebrate Brooklyn co-producer Rachel Charloff, "Each of them had admired each other's work — they both teach at NYU — so they agreed to do a duet."

"They are very physical dancers, two great, handsome, but very different, dancers working on [a] duet," said Charloff.

"David Neumann had done a piece with Laurie Anderson."

He's very collaborative and ends up and coming up. He crosses that boundary between actors and performers."

Neumann (pictured) will perform "Appropriate Behaviors" (1997) and "Deep Six" (2002).

"Nicholas Leichter is a very sexy dancer who works a lot with very contemporary, stylized music," she said. Leichter will perform "Bliss" (2002) and the world premiere of "Never End Part 2."

As choreographers-in-residence, Neumann and Leichter will teach a workshop demonstration at the Prospect Park Picnic House (enter the park at Fifth Street and Prospect West) on July 31 at 7:30 pm to share the techniques used in creating their new works.

The Aug. 2 performance will be at 7:30 pm at the Prospect Park Band Shell (Prospect Park West and Ninth Street). Admission is \$3. For more information, call (718) 855-7882 ext. 45.

— Lisa J. Curtis



On the roof

Williamsburg rooftop is hot venue for summer of indie flix

By Emma Span
for The Brooklyn Papers

Independent cinema is thriving on top of Peter's Car Corp., a tall building covered in graffiti that is now topped with a small movie screen.

As Rooftop Films manifesto says, "rooftops are inherently cinematic." A visit to one of their Friday night shows, which start this summer at 265 McKittrick St. in Williamsburg, through Sept. 13, should be enough to convince anyone of the truth of that statement. As it turns out, movies and rooftops enhance each other.

Rooftop Films was born in 1997 on the roof of its founder, Mark Elijah Rosenberg, now 27. Rosenberg began the tiny screenings because, he says, "I wanted a place to show the films that my friends and I had made, and we didn't like the burlesque and art fests, even the most down-to-earth festivals." He continues to make films when he can, including several that will be shown at the last screening of the season, on Sept. 13. The first year, the films were shown on the roof of his former building.

"I got kicked out of my apartment for that," he says, "so it was natural to move to the expansive freedom of Brooklyn."

So Rooftop Films found a new home in eastern Williamsburg, and has grown in popularity every year since, growing into

CINEMA

Rooftop Films are shown Fridays at 9 pm through Sept. 13 at 265 McKittrick St. at Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg. Admission is \$6. Go to www.rooftopfilms.com or call (718) 855-7882 ext. 45. **July 26:** Bikini Line (films by and about Women)

Aug. 2: Come and Get It (Ohio) and The Late Show (sick and twisted films at midnight)

Aug. 9: Feature: "What is Paper Mache?" (plus shorts)

Aug. 16: Indie Flix (shorts from Texas and/or Pacific Northwest)

Aug. 23: Handmade Films (direct a movie)

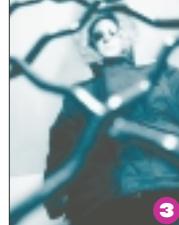
Aug. 30: Sista 2 Sista (featuring DCTV and Chaka Khan)

Sept. 6: ImageNation (films from the African Diaspora)

berg's estimate, they're on pace to attract even more. They will present more than 100 films this summer (leaving over the course of their 2002 season). Still, the enormous roof area makes the crowd seem small; the available folding chairs occupy less than a fourth of the space.

The Rooftop Films team, he says, "is low budget, but we are lean." The film tends towards the ultra-independent, with the accompanying lack of funding that entails. Some make the "Blair Witch Project" look like a glossy studio film. But that's part of what makes them so appealing: these are the kind of films that you almost certainly will never see anywhere else. It also what makes them so exactly suited to their unusual setting.

The "rooftop" in Rooftop Films is surprisingly unadorned, with graffiti doodles here and there and folding chairs set up in



Sky box: (Top) On July 5, the Brooklyn Marmalade played prior to the Rooftop Films screening. Films which will be shown on this Williamsburg rooftop this summer include (1) Michael Mittelstaedt's "Smithfield Angler," (2) Todd Rohal's "Brooklyn rooftop" and (3) Timothy Greenberg's "La Puppe."

front of the modest screen. Concessions, from rice and to Twix bars, are sold from a folding table, as season passes and — the true sign of an increasingly

See ROOFTOP on page GO 4

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ABUSE...

Continued from page GO 1
station, represented by a five-
monitor display. The panelists
— men, women and teens
from the Lower East Side
Girls Club — discuss why
men catcall and how it affects
women.

There is also a new dance
work, "Women, Navigating
Through Space" by Kwame
Ross, the founder and artistic
director of Proprietary Dance
Theater and artistic director
of Urban Bush Women. Ross' work details a
woman's journey through her
daily life.

In addition, performance
artist Jesse Peterman will
read her provocative "Ice
Cream" poem live, and actors
will perform a humorous skit
recreations various
seminars, produced and directed
by Amritisha Ferdinand. The
skit incorporates her first-hand
experience with daily catcalls
on the street of New York.

We jotted down a few of
seemingly catcalls from
across the street or from a car
or walking past a group of men —
and we gave those to
Amritisha said Mwendo.

She took those to the
next level. It's
hilarious. When
you take something so seriously,
you see how idiotic
it is. She said that was [Executive
Director] Elisabeth Blount's idea."

Mwendo explained that the
exhibit is "unconventional" in its
subject, matter as well as its
setup. There are no chairs in the
Black Mellon Space. The
exhibit is a stage, an exhibit
and the dance. DJ is her spinning
and theater piece will
happen when they happen —
spontaneous happenings.

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camera on the men who were
making them. The film, shot at
the Berlin International Film Festival
and had a run at Film Forum
in Manhattan.

Blount explained that the
organization is "very interested
in exposing vanguard art and art
on the cutting edge. We're par-
ticularly focused on new media
and visual arts. We give a plat-

form to stuff that is not rep-
resented in mainstream places
like museums. It's work that is
usually marginalized."

"Cat Calls" is a perfect ex-
pression of that kind of art,"
said Blount. "You don't think of
an everyday experience in
terms of art. When Red Clay first
unveiled "Cat Calls" in February,
they didn't have plans —
artistically or financially — to expand it into a

large, traveling exhibition.
Now the organization has to
raise considerable additional
funds to support the show and
to take it to a wider audience."

"A lot of the elements is
technology driven," said
Mwendo. "We need up-to-date
computer and video equipment,
and video editing services. It's
a production show."

But that won't slow Red
Clay's mission to bring the
show to new locations. Next
year, "Cat Calls" will travel to

the Ashe Contemporary Arts
Center in New Orleans.

"Jenja will be up tap into
something every human has
experienced on one level or another — or at least witnessed,"
said Blount.

"We're kind of reacting to
the success of the show. We're
expanding the centerpiece for
next year."

In brainstorming ideas for
outreach components of the
show, the company has
decided on a panel discussion.
Elisabeth Blount said, "So whenever [a
woman] is catcalled, she can give
the name of a card," said
Mwendo. "And the phone number
on the card is the number at
Red Clay Arts. And what will explain:
if it's a card, it's a card. It's one
of three things.... The voice mail
will be ready by July 25."

Another new outreach component
is a panel discussion. Mwendo
said they would post the results at
the show "in a creative way."

The doors open at 6 pm,
beginning with a screening of Maggie
Hedglen-West's documentary "War Zone." Hedglen-West was grappling with
catcalls for seven years, and
her answer was to turn her
camera on the men who were
making them. The film, shot at
the Berlin International Film Festival
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Keeping it real

Nine features by socially conscious Brit filmmaker Ken Loach get screenings at BAM

By Marian Masone
for The Brooklyn Papers

Ken Loach, famed documenter of the British working class, has spent his career making radical films that examine the failings of the British social system, from government to which people live their lives.

Some of his most celebrated and award-winning films will screen at BAMcinematek Aug. 2-18.

Loach began his career in 1964, in British television working on a popular police series as well as "The Wednesday Play," a provocative anthology series that he created. The bureaucracy of the medium got to him, and in 1967, he made his first film, "The Windup Girl."

And it's been pretty much all fiction films since then, with the exception of the period of Thatcherism (pretty much the entire 1980s) when he made a number of documentaries addressing both political and social issues.

But Loach's power as a filmmaker lies in the feature films and that is where the BAM series will focus. His features are touchingly, movingly realistic. They recall the cinema verite of the 1960s, such as *Harold and Maude* as *Kidul and Leacock* and the Mayles Brothers who gets close to his subjects. But since these films are fiction, they most closely resemble the Neorealism movement of postwar War II Italian cinema.

The nine films that will be shown are classic Loach, focusing mainly on relationships, all of them dysfunctional. "Poor Cow" has a great sense of the time in which it was made. The son is by Dyanan, and the mother is a prostitute. *Kes* (1969) is Redgrave's mod young woman trying to find the good life in "Gerry Girl" (1966). Joy however, is giving birth as the film opens and Tom (John Bindon), the father, doesn't even

CINEMA

BAMcinematek will screen "The Feature Films of Ken Loach" at BAM Rose Cinemas (501 Lafayette St., Aug. 2-18. Tickets are \$9.50 for seniors, children under 12, and students with valid ID; \$12.50 for adults; \$14.50 for students with valid ID). For a schedule of dates and screening times visit www.bam.org on the Web or call (718) 654-4100.

bother to show up at the hospital. When Tom winds up in jail for trying to steal a car, Joy takes up with his friend Dave, played by a young and beautiful Terence Stamp ("The Collector," "Priscilla Queen of the Desert"), who also eventually lands in the slammer.

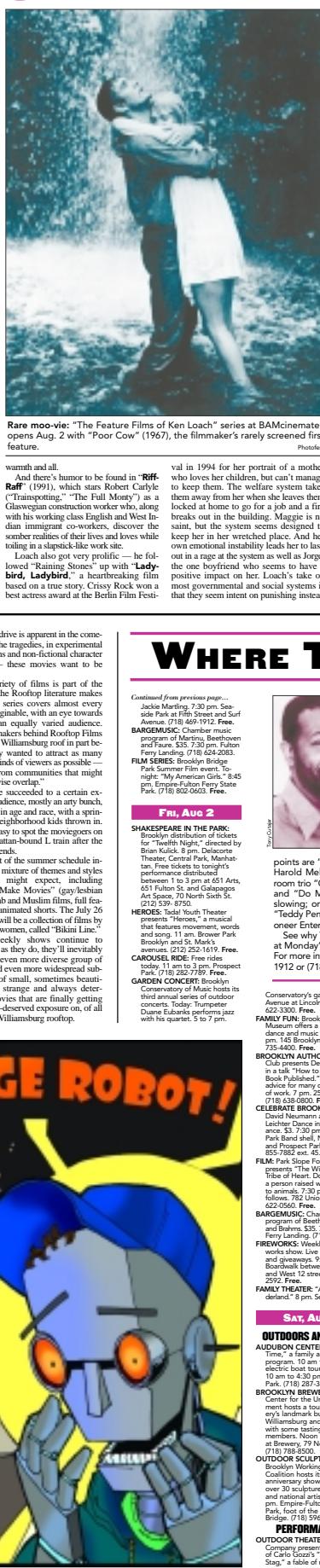
When he is tossed from the hospital, however, Janice undergoes shock treatment and more. Instead of coming out of her malaise, she spirals deeper and deeper into a mental breakdown. Here Loach uses many non-professional players, as well as a real therapist as he indicts the medical community's inability to accept new ways of dealing with mental illness.

While one is hard pressed to find optimism in some of Loach's early work (although, as he does once he turned to feature filmmaking again in the 1990s, optimism found its way into his films). (Maybe it was the departure of "Margaret Thatcher.") While the plot of "Raining Stones" is relatively simple, the complex Dolly's attempts to get her daughter the communion dress she dreams of (and getting into bed with an oily loan shark in the process), the film is a masterpiece of the dignity of the working class.

Loach's new film, with a documentary feel, is "Poor Cow" (1967) — he followed "Raining Stones" up with "Ladybird, Ladybird," a heartbreaking film based on a true story. Crispy Rock won a best actress award at the Berlin Film Festi-

val in 1994 for her portrait of a mother who loves her children, but can't manage to keep them. The welfare system takes them away, and her son gets arrested for breaking out in the building. Maggie is not saint, but the system seems designed to keep her in her wretched place. And her own son, who leads her to lash out in a spiteful-like way, site.

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Rare moo-vie: "The Feature Films of Ken Loach" series at BAMcinematek opens Aug. 2 with "Poor Cow" (1967), the filmmaker's rarely screened first feature.

warmth and all.

And there's humor to be found in "Riff-Raff" (1991), which stars Robert Carlyle as "Trampin' Jim." The film is a mix of Glasgow comedy, working-class hero along with his working-class English and West Indian immigrant co-workers, discover the sorrier realities of their lives and loves while toiling in a sweatshop-like work site.

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"My Name is Joe" (1998) is another view of people struggling within the system, but here the struggle is an internal one. Joe is a recovering alcoholic, and he is well on the way to making his life — he's a coach, a lover, but energetic soccer team, takes Liam, a young former junkie, under his wing, and he meets and romances a middle class health care worker. But when trouble brews for his young charge, Joe risks his relationship, as well as his own recovery, when he returns to work for Liam's former dealer. These characters know how the system works and what they need to do to save themselves. Joe's need to find his own generation of life in trying to take care of all those around him and neglecting himself.

Last month, the 66-year-old Loach received the Irene Diamond Lifetime Achievement Award by the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival for his work chronicling the pain and need of the working class, but his films have been garnering accolades for years. Five of the films shown in the series — "Kes," "Raining Stones," "Ladybird, Ladybird," the Spanish Civil War film "Landscape of Freedom" (1995) and "My Name is Joe" were shown in the New York Film Festival the years of their release.

Awards from international festivals have come his way for "Ladybird" in addition to actress Rock's award in Berlin. Glaswegian actor Peter Mullan of "My Name is Joe" received the Best Actor award in Cannes in '98, and that festival awarded the Grand Jury Prize to "Raining Stones" in '93 and to "Hidden Agenda" in '90. The controversial "Hidden Agenda" addresses the "troubles" in Northern Ireland, and is one of the few Loach films to boast an almost all-star cast. Frances McDormand, Bridget Fonda, and Donald Sutherland all come to play with the films in BAM's series. "Sweet Sixteen," his latest film, took home the best screenplay award at Cannes in May.

These awards, however, may not be mere ceremony in New York. (The Film Society of Lincoln Center presented a retrospective back in 1993.) The BAM series presents an opportunity to see the work of a career-spanning filmmaker completely in touch with real people.

Marian Masone is the associate director of programming for the Film Society of Lincoln Center and chief curator of The New York Video Festival also at Lincoln Center

ROOFTOP...

Continued from page GO 1

successful enterprise — \$12 T-shirts with the tasteful Rooftop Films logo.

The setting's main attraction, of course, is the view from six stories up — the city skyline, the Williamsburg Bridge with the sky and the city lights both glowing. You can look out over a vast expanse of Brooklyn in all directions, catch leaping gulls from the yards and windows of neighboring houses, or a minute movie visible in each, like an alternate set from "Rear Window." Floating on a screen above the city, with planes flying low overhead, the cameras can zoom in on the yards and windows below, the short movies feel like they might have materialized spontaneously from the night air.

The June 28 screening was sold out, and the June 29 screening at the San Francisco-based High Concept Line Budget Film Festival ("...because \$40 million can kill a good idea," says the program). The movies varied in quality but, like most student-budgeted films, all had a certain intent and energy that keeps you laughing. They included animation and live action, video and 16 mm film, outlandish fiction and straightforward drama.

The featured shorts hailed from a dizzying array of locations. There was a strange but funny short fictional piece



Rooftop Films Founding Director Mark Elijah Rosenberg moved his independent weekly film fest to Brooklyn where it screens new, rare films on a rooftop.

called "ATM," set in Williamsburg, by that neighborhood's own Will Carleton. The plot concerns the summer he spent at McMurtry Research Station in Antarctica, aptly titled "The Strange and Terrible Fate of Sir Walter Scott." From North Carolina came a drama about a man who wants to perform for Christ, and again from Brooklyn came a strange little animated film about knitting and child-

hood lust, by Holly Klein.

The budget and independence of the movies in the summer is what unifies them — they have no part of the traditional Hollywood studio structure. The roof is a venue for filmmakers who will probably never make money off of this work. But that is the point.

And the director is not something determined movies that are finally getting all places, a Williamsburg rooftop.

One. That drive is apparent in the comedies and the tragedies, in experimental visual films and non-fictional character studies — these movies want to be seen.

The variety of films is part of the point, as the *Roofitop* literature makes clear; the series covers almost every genre imaginable, with an eye towards drama, comedy, and action, too.

The filmmakers behind *Rooftop* chose this Williamsburg roof in part because they wanted to attract as many different kinds of viewers as possible — people of all walks of life.

They've succeeded to a certain extent, the audience, mostly an arty bunch, does vary in age and race, with a springing of neighborhood kids thrown in. Still, it's nice to spot the moviegoers on the Williamsburg roof in train after the screening ends.

The rest of the summer schedule includes the feature films and styles that you might expect, including "Women Make Movies" (gay/lesbian films), Arab and Muslim films, full features and animated shorts. The July 26 screening will be a collection of films by and about women, called "Bella Line."

And weekly, movies continue to grow, and as they do, they'll inevitably attract an even more diverse group of people and even more widespread submissions of small, sometimes beautiful, sometimes ugly, sometimes determined movies that are finally getting all places, a Williamsburg rooftop.

WHERE TO GO...

Continued from previous page...

Jackie Martling, 7:30 pm. Seaside Park, 5th Street and Surf Ave. (718) 222-0000. **BARGEMUSIC:** Chamber music program of Martha Beethoven and friends. 8 pm. Brooklyn Ferry Landing, (718) 624-2083.

FILM SERIES: Brooklyn Bridge Park, 10th Street. Tonight, 7-9 pm. "American Girls," 8:45 pm. Empire-Fulton Ferry Park, (718) 626-0000. Free.

HEROES: Brooklyn Youth Theater presents "Heroes," a musical about the 9/11 attacks and songs 11 am. Browne Park Brooklyn and St. Mark's Place, (718) 387-1000. Free.

CAROUSEL RIDE: Free ride, today, 11 am to 3 pm. Prospect Park, 20th Street and Prospect Park South, (718) 638-6700. Free.

GARDEN CONCERT: Brooklyn Conservatory of Music hosts its third annual summer outdoor concerts. Today: Trumpeter Duane Lubitsky performs jazz with his quartet, 5 to 7 pm.

Photo: Jackie Martling

Ladies man

R&B legend Teddy Pendergrass (pictured) will perform on July 29 at 7:30 pm at the 20th annual Martin Luther King Jr. concert series at Wingate Field (between Williamsburg Street and Kingsland Avenue).

Among his three decade career, high points are "If You Don't Know Me By Now," with Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes, and his bed-room trio "Close the Door," "Turn Out the Lights" and "Do Me." Pendergrass shows no signs of slowing down, on July 30, he's releasing a new DVD, "Daddy Pendergrass, Daddy, With Love" (Pioneer Entertainment, \$24.99).

See why Teddy's career has such staying power at Monday's free concert. Bring your own chairs. For more information, call the hotline at (718) 469-1912 or (718) 802-3700.

Photo: Jackie Martling

and romance, 3 p.m. Music Pagoda, near the Brooklyn Bridge Park, (212) 414-7773. Free.

STAGE: An evening of performances on the sidewalk at First Avenue, 5th Street, 55 St. John's Place, (718) 783-4438. Free.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: presents the Bocca Festival with Kevin Cabral, Manny Quirando and Willi Ninja, 7-9 pm. Prospect Park Shell, 9th Street and Prospect Park West, (718) 638-6800. Free.

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BARGEMUSIC: Chamber music of Beethoven, Strauss, Brahms, 8:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Park, (718) 624-2083. Free.

PROUD: Brooklyn's first gay quartet performs, 10:30 pm. Vanderbilt Ave., (718) 638-1981. Free.

CHILLY CHILDREN:

PUPPET SHOW: "The Witch," 5:30 pm. \$6 children, 12:30 pm, 3:30 pm. Reservations suggested. Sat., 1 pm. 2nd Street, (718) 626-0526. Free.

BARDHOUSE: Chamber music program of Beethoven, Strauss, Brahms, 8:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Park, (718) 624-2083. Free.

MARY FATHER: "Alice in Wonderland," 4 and 8 pm. See Sat., July 27.

SAT., AUG. 3

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

AUDITION CENTER: "Bustify," a family arts and crafts program, 10 am to noon. Also, 1 pm to 4 pm. Prospect Park, 20th Street and Prospect Park South, (718) 788-6500. Free.

OUTDOOR SCULPTURE: Brooklyn Sculpture Coalition hosts its 20th anniversary show featuring works from local and national artists. Noon to 6 pm. Brooklyn Park, foot of the Brooklyn Bridge, (718) 596-2597. Free.

PERFORMANCES

OUTDOOR THEATRE: Come and see the production of Carlo Gozzi's "The King Stag," a fable of magic, intrigue

and romance, 3 p.m. Music Pagoda, near the Brooklyn Bridge Park, (212) 414-7773. Free.

OPENING: 20th anniversary BWAC Outdoor Sculpture Show. Reception from 6 to 8 pm. Artworks by Imperial Fulton Ferry State Park, Waterfront, between 2nd and 3rd Streets.

FIRST SATURDAY: Brooklyn Museum of Art features Latin American art, Steel Performers, 6 to 8 pm. Artists of all ages are invited to create original portraits of a live model, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Mexican flamenco presented by the Spanish Steps, 7 pm. Film "Our Sons," 8 pm. Spanish Steps, 8 pm. Free.

GALLERY TOUR: Positive Focus invites teens, ages 14 to 18, to tour the Brooklyn Museum of Art, 10 am to 1 pm. See Sat., July 27.

SUN., AUG. 4

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

SMITH STREET TOUR: Brooklyn Sculpture Coalition hosts a tour of Smith Street in Boerum Hill. Walk includes tasting and sampling, plus visits to the kitchens and hidden rooms. 11 am to 1 pm. Meet at Carroll Street at 7th Street at (718) 788-8500.